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*May 8th, 1855.*

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From the Rev. J. C. Adamson, D.D., dated Oxford, Chester Co., Penn., 16th April, 1855, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent.

From the Boston Society of Natural History, dated 17th March and 12th April, 1855, acknowledging the receipt of late numbers of the Proceedings and Journal.

From M. Prosper Farbé, President of the Natural History Society of Rheims, France, stating that he is at present on a tour through this country for the purpose of collecting objects of Natural History, and proposing exchanges.

Mr. Vaux, on behalf of the Publication Committee, announced the publication of Part 1, Vol. 3, new series, of the Journal of the Academy.

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*May 15th.*

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Bavaria, dated Munich, 20th Dec., 1854, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings, Vol. 6, Nos. 8—12, Vol. 7, Nos. 1 and 2, and of the Journal, Vol. 2, Part 2.

From the same, dated 20th February, 1855, requesting a second set of the Publications of the Academy for the Library of the Society, the first set being deposited in the public Library of Munich.

From the Entomological Society of Stettin, dated 3d Feb., 1855, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings of the Academy, Vol. 6, Nos. 8—12, Vol. 7, Nos. 1—2, and transmitting their own publications.

From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Vienna, dated 27th Dec., 1854, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings, Vol. 6, Nos. 8—12, Vol. 7, Nos. 1 and 2, and of the Journal, Part 4, Vol. 2, new series.

From the Natural History Society of Dantzie, dated 11th Dec., 1854, of the same tenor.

From Byron King, Esq., Attaché U. S. Legation at Paris, dated 20th April, 1855, transmitting Vols. 5 and 6 of the *Annales des Mines*.

From W. Humphreys, of Savannah, Georgia, dated 23th April, 1855, relative to a collection of Reptiles.

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*May 22d.*

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From the Geological Society of London, dated 4th May, 1855, requesting the transmission of certain missing numbers of the Proceedings of the Academy.

From the Linnean Society of London, dated 16th Nov., 1854, ac-

knowledging the receipt of the Proceedings of the Academy, Vol. 6, Nos. 1—6, and Journal, Part 3, Vol. 2, new series.

From M. Prosper Farbé, dated Philadelphia, 22d May, 1855, accompanying the donations acknowledged this evening.

Mr. Isaac Lea read a paper, intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Description of a new Mollusk from the Red Sandstone near Pottsville, Penn.;" which was referred to Dr. Leidy, Dr. Wilson and Mr. Vaux.

Dr. Leidy stated that he had received from Dr. Nott the bones of the so-called fossil man, exhibited in New Orleans several years since. The skeleton was 18 feet in length. There were two molar teeth, each weighing two pounds, and the fragment of a canine. The bones are those of the Mastodon. Dr. Leidy described the mode in which the skeleton was made up.

Dr. Leidy also announced to the Society that the fine skeleton of the Narwhal, (*Monodon monoceros*) which had been presented by Dr. Kane in 1851, had been mounted, and was now in the Museum.

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*May 29th.*

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

The Committee to which was referred the following paper, by Mr. Isaac Lea, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings :

*Description of a new Mollusk from the Red Sandstone near Pottsville, Pa.*

By ISAAC LEA.

A few weeks since Dr. Leidy had the kindness to place in my hands an interesting specimen, consisting of a cast of a bimusculose mollusk which that gentleman had found last summer at Tumbling Run dam, about a mile south-east of Pottsville.

The discovery of this small specimen in these Red Sandstones (Formation No. 11 of the Pennsylvania Survey, by Prof. Rogers) is of great importance, as it is believed to be the first mollusk which has been observed in these Red Sandstones, underlying the conglomerate of the coal measures of Schuylkill County, known as the southern coal field of Pennsylvania, and consequently congeneric with the *Sauropus primævus*, Lea, and *Plumites*, Rogers.\*

The extreme paucity of organic life yet observed in these Red Sandstones excites the more interest, as the fact of such deficiency of types renders the position of this formation in the series a matter of doubt in the minds of some geologists.

It is hoped that by patient research other mollusks may be discovered, and that, by the palæontology of this portion of the Palæozoic rocks, its true position may be determined.

The specimen is simply a cast of the exterior of the two valves, entirely flattened out. In its facies it approaches the *Cypricardia rhombea*, Phill., (Geology of Yorkshire, pl. 5, f. 10,) from the Mountain Limestone of Northumberland, England. It is, however, rather more quadrate, and is a much smaller shell. It has strong affinities to *Posidonia*, particularly in the striæ, and may possibly

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\* Mr. Hall, in the New York Reports, part 4, p. 292, describes a *Cypricardia (contracta)* from the "Conglomerate and Sandstone" under the great western coal measures, near Panama, Chataque County. It is quite oblong, and of much greater breadth and of a larger size than the species described herein.